

## § 831.404

## 5 CFR Ch. I (1–1–15 Edition)

(c) An employee or Member covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), including an employee or Member who elected to transfer or was automatically placed in FERS, may not open a voluntary contributions account or make additional contributions to an existing voluntary contribution account.

[56 FR 43863, Sept. 5, 1991, as amended at 79 FR 46619, Aug. 8, 2014]

### § 831.404 Procedure for making voluntary contributions.

(a) To make voluntary contributions to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, an eligible individual must first apply on a form prescribed by OPM. OPM will establish a voluntary contribution account for each eligible individual who elects to make voluntary contributions and notify the individual that a voluntary contribution account has been established. An eligible individual may not make voluntary contributions until notified by OPM that an account has been so established.

(b) After receiving notice from OPM under paragraph (a) of this section, an eligible individual may forward voluntary contributions to the Office of Personnel Management, at the address designated for that purpose. Voluntary contributions must be in the amount of \$25 or multiples thereof, by money order, draft, or check payable to OPM.

(c) The total voluntary contributions made by an employee or Member may not exceed, as of the date any contribution is received, 10 percent of the aggregate basic pay received by the eligible individual.

(1) Employees are responsible for not exceeding the 10 percent limit.

(2) When the employee retires or withdraws the voluntary contributions, OPM will check to determine whether the 10 percent limit has been exceeded.

(3) If the total of voluntary contributions received from the employee exceeds the 10 percent limit, OPM will refund without interest any amount that exceeds the 10 percent limit.

### § 831.405 Interest on voluntary contributions.

(a) Interest on voluntary contributions is computed under § 831.105.

(b) Voluntary contributions begin to earn interest on the date deposited by OPM.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, voluntary contributions stop earning interest on the earliest of—

(1) The date when OPM authorizes payment to the individual of the balance as a withdrawal (831.406);

(2) The date when the employee or Member separates or transfers to a position not subject to CSRS or FERS; or

(3) The date when the employee transfers to a retirement system other than CSRS or FERS.

(d) If an employee separates with entitlement to a deferred annuity and either dies without withdrawing his or her voluntary contributions or uses his or her voluntary contributions to purchase additional annuity, voluntary contributions stop earning interest on the earlier of—

(1) The date the former employee or Member dies; or

(2) The commencing date of the former employee's or Member's deferred annuity.

### § 831.406 Withdrawal of voluntary contributions.

(a) Before receiving additional annuity payments based on the voluntary contributions, a person who has made voluntary contributions may withdraw the balance while still an employee or Member, or after separation.

(b) A person entitled to payment of lump-sum benefits under the CSRS order for precedence set forth in section 8342(c) of title 5, United States Code, is entitled to payment of the balance, if any, on the death of—

(1) An employee or Member;

(2) A separated employee or Member who has not retired;

(3) A retiree, unless a survivor benefit is payable based on an election under § 831.407; or

(4) A person receiving a survivor annuity based on voluntary contributions.

### § 831.407 Purchase of additional annuity.

(a) At the time of retirement CSRS (or under FERS, if transferred from CSRS), a person may use the balance of